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U.S. PLANES SHOT DOWN
IN NORTH VIET NAM

Two Crucial Issues

PRESIDENT Ho Chi Minh's appeal on the occasion of July 20 reaffirmed in clearest terms the Vietnamese people's position regarding the two crucial issues now under discussion within the Viet Nam settlement: the withdrawal of American troops and the holding of general elections in South Viet Nam.

Everybody knows how obstinate the ruling circles in Washington are on both subjects. Prompted by their desire to cling to South Viet Nam at all costs, they have been refusing to withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from there. Violently trying to touch the chauvinistic string of the American people, Henry Cabot Lodge declared at the 25th session of the Paris Conference that such a withdrawal would be tantamount to a "capitulation". So, after having committed an armed aggression against South Viet Nam and occupied militarily her territory, the American imperialists are creating a price for the cessation of such an aggression and occupation, and this price is precisely the permission given to them to impose their neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam by further political methods.

To soothe U.S. public opinion which has been pressing for the repatriation of the GIs, President Nixon recently opened a safety-valve by ordering that 35,000 U.S. troops be pulled out, which is in essence a "trickery", as President Ho Chi Minh put it in his appeal. This move, so loudly ballyhooed by Washington's propaganda machine, was also aimed at making people believe that the U.S. plan to "Vietnamize" the war was in

a groove. But nobody was taken in: if so many elite U.S. divisions had been badly trounced in South Viet Nam, how could puppet soldiers with no morale assume their combat burden?

President Ho Chi Minh has made unequivocally plain the Vietnamese people's demand: "The Vietnamese people firmly demand the withdrawal of all U.S. and satellite troops, not the withdrawal of only 25,000 or 250,000 or 500,000 men, but a total, complete, unconditional withdrawal."

TURNING to the question of future general elections in South Viet Nam, President Ho Chi Minh pointed out in his appeal: "After the total withdrawal of the U.S. and satellite troops and the complete liberation of South Viet Nam from foreign invasion, the Provisional Coalition Government, as provided for in the (NFL-Ed.) ten-point overall solution, will organize free and democratic general elections to enable the South Vietnamese people to determine themselves their own political regime, elect a constituent assembly, work out a Constitution and set up the official coalition government of South Viet Nam, without any foreign country being allowed to interfere". And he stressed: "So long as U.S. troops and the puppet administration remain in existence in South Viet Nam, really free and democratic general elections will be absolutely impossible."

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ALWAYS ON THE LOOK OUT FOR ENEMY PLANES!
(Young girls of Hanoi X factory self-defense unit)



South Viet Nam

Repeated PLAF Attacks in Saigon Periphery, South of DMZ and Western High Plateaux.

- PLAF onset on My Tho town, on base of US Division 9 and on 6 sub-sectors: 700 enemy troops put out of action.
- Enemy convoy on Highway No 13 ambushed: 62 vehicles destroyed, 200 GI casualties.
- Many columns of US Airborne Division 101 intercepted at A Bia (Northwest): 280 GIs killed, 11 aircraft downed.
- A Civil guard company wiped out southwest of Da Lat, 30 military vehicles wrecked on Road No 19 (East of Pleiku).

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- In "De-Americanizing" the War, Washington Admits U.S. Failure in South Viet Nam.

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- South Viet Nam and the Anniversary of the Signing of the 1954 Geneva Agreements

Washington Admits U.S. Failure in South Viet Nam

(Continued)

FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION OUT OF STEAM IN WESTERN HIGHLANDS

THIS division was created from scratch to respond to West-morland's S.A.S. following the dismal failure of his first "strategic dry-season counter-offensive." Thrown into the Viet Nam theatre in Aug. 1966, it experienced, 3 months later, its first disaster: a whole battalion completely wiped out on Nov. 12 in the Sa Thay valley. West of Pleiku, Western Highlands.

The next campaign did not bring any improvement to the situation, and thousands of GIs were put out of action, especially in the battles of Nov. 3, 1967 at Dram, and of Aug. 7, Nov. 17 and Dec. 11, 1967 in the Duc To area.

During the 1968 PLAF "Tet" offensives, under fire in the whole of its occupation zone stretching from Buon Me Thuot to Kontum, the 4th Infantry lost 4,500 men killed or wounded in the first week alone, concentrated in the cities to "hold" them, it turned out to be far too large. For the deadly shelling by Liberation gunners, it's "sweep" efforts to ease adverse pressure produced no better results. As a matter of fact, around Kontum, in March and early April 1969, its 1st Brigade had to withdraw, exhausted, from the outer belt, and the narrow area controlled by the U.S. puppets in Kontum province kept shrinking, as the U.S. press put it, like a piece of shagreen.

Today, withdrawn into its bases and abandoning the Duc To area, North of Kontum, the 4th Infantry is lending itself to the "de-Americanization of the war" experiment by turning over the Plei Can-Hen Het area to the puppet troops.

4TH INFANTRY DIVISION BOGGED DOWN IN THE MEKONG ALLUVIUMS

THE Mekong Delta, South Viet Nam's biggest reservoir of manpower and wealth, has always been one of the areas controlled of which is considered by the US-puppets to be decisive for the war issue. As early as Summer 1966, Westmorland would have committed one of his marine divisions to this area if the latter were not lured into the vast trap laid South of the 17th parallel. With an eye to this strategic objective, aid was back to the misfortune of the marines in the First Tactical Zone.

AMERICAN DIVISION, ONE OF THE "RECORD-HOLDERS" IN SOUTH VIET NAM

THE origin of this unit, which retains the name of a division having fought in the Pacific against Japan and de-facto the Viet Cong, goes back to the misfortune of the marines in the First Tactical Zone.

In April 1967, Westmorland mustered the 101st Airborne Brigade, the 1st Brigade of the 1st Airborne Division and the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Airborne Division to form the Oregon Task Force and haul it into the provinces

kong delta where it was based early in 1967.

Hardly had it been installed in Long An province, about 30 km south of Saigon, when it saw the first anti-U.S. guerrilla belt of the Mekong Delta set up around its Rach Kien base. In a 10-week period, from Feb. 20 to May 2, 1967, it sustained nearly 2,500 casualties, 600 of them around Rach Kien.

In course of time, the 9th Infantry's fire extended gradually to the south, reaching the provinces of My Tho, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Can Tho, etc. At the same time, its setbacks also increased and worsened. The Binh Luc base, the Division's HQ near My Tho, was subjected to an average of 2 attacks per week between Feb. 23 and June 6, 1969. Total U.S. losses in the 39 battles recorded in this period were 2,110 GIs killed or wounded, 174 planes and helicopters destroyed on the ground or shot down, 14 military vehicles burnt or wrecked, 50 heavy cannons and mortars put out of commission, 19 war vessels sunk or damaged, 17 logistic depots burnt, etc.

As far as the PLAF of Ben Tre province, they fouled the river assault tactics applied by the 9th Infantry and Gieng Tron river became a real graveyard of U.S. vessels. In the period 17 months, this division suffered 18,000 men wiped out, 530 vessels sent to the bottom or set on fire and 206 aircraft downed.

It is clear that the 9th Infantry has disappointed the "Pentagon East". The fact that its command has changed hands 4 times in 2 years shows in what dire straits it has found itself. Later, it made up the major part of the contingent of U.S. troops to be brought home in July, while "the vast reservoir of manpower and wealth" — the Mekong Delta was still far from being "pacified". It is hard to imagine how this major objective of the U.S. command can be attained after the withdrawal of the 9th Infantry whereas the very troop shortage is a serious handicap for its realisation.

Southeast of Da Nang to support the marines, hard pressed since the end of 1966. However, after 7 months' operations, 4,000 GIs of this unit were put out of action. The need arose for the permanent deployment of a division along the duty of force of intervention in this sector. The US command raised the Americal Division in Nov. 1967, composed of the above-mentioned 101st Brigade and 2 other brigades freshly brought in from the U.S., the 198th and the 181st.

Under the hammering blows of the patriots, this unit has ever since sustained the heaviest losses any U.S. division has ever experienced in South Viet Nam.

In the first days of 1968, the 101st Brigade was bloodied in the (Que Son area (13 km South of Da Nang). At the time of the 1968 Tet offensives, the division's 5,000 casualties had to be made up by Westmorland with a brigade, the 2nd Airborne Brigade, hurriedly brought in from the States. Immediately after this replenishment, it met with a new reverse at Ban Ngang: the 198th and 199th brigades and an armoured regiment pulled a 2,000 GI's force, 74 aircraft shot down or blasted to pieces on the ground and 33 armoured cars destroyed.

At the late-up on the night of Aug. 22, 1968, its HQ and those of its 3 brigades came under attack and were badly battered, and 6 months later, until this date, the HQ's of the 198th brigades were reduced to rubble and 3 of its airfields (including Chu Lai) heavily pounded.

During the 1969 post-Tet offensives, this division took 500 casualties and from May 12 to May 15, 2,000 more GIs were disabled.

101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, SMOKE OF HAMBURGER HILL (A) HILLOCAST

ON July 30, 1965, the Governor of South Viet Nam in the person of Ambassador Maxwell Taylor and Generalissimo Westmorland made a trip to Cam Ranh to welcome to South Viet Nam the 1st Brigade of a division of which they had been, at different periods, direct commanders. It was the 101st Airborne, born 23 years ago, in August 1942.

One month and a half later, during its first large-scale engagement at Thuan Ninh on Sept. 18, 1965, this brigade was depleted of 200 men, and 9 helicopters were shot down. Since then it has been badly mauled especially in the area between Tay Hoan and the sea coast and the Kontum — Duc To (Western Highlands).

In Dec. 1967, the division was

brought to full strength by the addition of 2 other brigades and for more than a year afterwards, it was pinned down in the Hue — Da Nang sector, transformed into a 2nd air mobile division.

The fame this unit soon earned has been the target of many ironical remarks on the part of the Western press and other "friendly" units. When in April-May 1969, 4,000 GIs of the 101st Airborne sweeping for 4 weeks a valley 7 km west of Da Nang succeeded in killing only one "VC", UPI philosophically opined that it was but one of its many beatings of the air. Others thought that the Division command had chosen this area known to be desertic to conduct the operation!

More "resounding" still was the A. B. affair, the misfortune of Hamburger Hill termed by Senator Edward Kennedy as "Both senseless and irresponsible".

The fact was that, in the heat of the game, the Americans had to have been between May 12 and May 15, 1,800 GIs to occupy for a few days this last hill in the A-SO Valley southwest of Hue.

FOR all their efforts, the U.S. imperialists have missed their fundamental objectives. The 5 full-strength U.S. divisions and different units equivalent to 2 other divisions have been unable to destroy the adverse battle corps. Their losses have increased at an accelerated rate and are already heavier than those in World War I. The aggressors and their puppets are sinking still more deeply in an irretrievable defensive posture and are fighting now to delay and limit defeat.

In such conditions, to think of pulling out U.S. troops and replacing them with puppet troops is a quick remedy designed to dupe the American and world public. But the people who favour it may not be aware of that nevertheless, they know only too well that to maintain their troops in South Viet Nam will only court more serious setbacks. The morale of the GIs has been dropping drastically and the *Daily Telegraph* (March 7, 1969) disclosed that there is on an average a desertion in the U.S. forces every 10 minutes, or 35,000 deserters in 1968!

To do so, Westmorland came to welcome home the first homecoming contingents and extol U.S. aggressors in Viet Nam. The lucky GIs who leave our country after do not do so as winners, and clearly they are not to blame. "De-Americanisation" is merely a U.S. confession of failure of U.S. armed forces in an imperialist war against a people and a revolution. It is their national inheritance and profoundly attached to independence and freedom. The American people themselves 200 years ago.

SOUTH VIET NAM AND THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE 1954 GENEVA AGREEMENTS

"The U.S. must end its war of aggression, withdraw unconditionally all its troops and those of its satellites and let the South Vietnamese people settle their own affairs themselves"

(Statement by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam)

THE 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, result of the victories recorded by the people in our whole country in their protracted, valiant struggle against the French colonialists, have recognized the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam.

In their design to turn South Viet Nam into a neo-type colony and military base of the U.S. and prolonging the partition of Viet Nam, however, the U.S. imperialists in the past fifteen years have been using a puppet regime as an instrument of aggression, and waging a war of the most savage kind in history on the Vietnamese people...

For the sake of their Fatherland's independence and freedom, the fourteen million heroic South Vietnamese in the past fifteen years have been fighting continuously against the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen. Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the armed forces and people of South Viet Nam have defeated the U.S. "special war" and are foiling the U.S. local war...

Faced with complete collapse, the Thieu-Ky-Huung puppet administration is desperately clinging to the U.S. while ruthlessly cracking down upon anyone standing for independence and neutrality, whose advocates include people of various religious communities, intellectuals, students, businessmen and members of the puppet army and administration. The latter is opposing with tooth and nail the formation of a national coalition government. In so doing, it is baffling the aspirations of the people and thus prolonging the U.S. occupation of all strata in South Viet Nam for independence, peace and national concord...

Due to the obtuseness of the U.S. and the Saigon puppet administration, the Paris Conference on Viet Nam has made no progress so far. The Nixon administration must be held entirely responsible for this deadlock.

The South Vietnamese people cherish peace, but that must be a peace in independence and freedom. If the U.S. stubbornly prolongs the war of aggression in South Viet Nam, the people here will fight on stubbornly, till not a single U.S. aggressor soldier is left. The recent convention of the South Viet Nam Congress of People's Representatives and the establishment of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Govern-

ment constituted a new, very great achievement of the South Viet Nam revolution, and a manifestation of the South Vietnamese people's iron determination to win complete victory for their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

Prompted by its desire to settle peacefully the South Viet Nam issue on the basis of the guarantee of the South Vietnamese people's fundamental national rights, the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government has endorsed the 10-point overall solution of the NLF, as its position at the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. The Nixon administration must respond seriously to that proposal and comply with the imperative demands of the American people and the world's peoples in general for an end to the war of aggression in Viet Nam, the complete and unconditional withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, and the settlement by the South Vietnamese people themselves their internal affairs, without foreign interference. Such is the honourable way out for the U.S....

The people and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam sincerely thank the socialist countries and friends in all the five continents for the great sympathy with, and great support and assistance to, the Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. We thank the progressive people in the United States for valiantly and continuously pushing forward the movement against the U.S. and its aggression in Viet Nam. We thank various international democratic organizations and the governments and peoples of those countries now taking part in the campaign of solidarity with the Vietnamese people on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam.

The RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government appeals to various governments and organizations, progressives in the world, and the people in the United States, to remove the U.S. respect the basic principles of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, i.e., the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam and to give more vigorous support, moral and material, to the South Vietnamese people, till the complete victory of their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.

"Resolutely continue the struggle to achieve our people's fundamental objectives — independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country"

(Statement by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation)

THE South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the entire Vietnamese people reaffirm their complete agreement with the statement issued by the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government on the occasion of July 20 this year, which most clearly expounds our people's militant, resolute and clear-cut stand, and goodwill which is radiant with the light of justice.

"In the 'Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom' spirit, with the resolve to 'fight until the American quit and the puppets topple', all our armed forces and people, by their practical revolutionary actions, resolutely keep up the fight to the end in order to attain our fundamental objectives — independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country."

"Rallied around the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, all the South Vietnamese people will be on their mettle in the resistance against the U.S. and for national

salvation until complete victory, in response to President Ho Chi Minh's sacred appeal 'So long as an aggressor remains on our soil, we must continue to fight to wipe him out'.

"The heart of the Viet Nam issue is that as the aggressor, the U.S. must stop its aggression, and as it has illegally brought its troops and troops of its satellites here, it must pull all of them out, together with all military personnel, weapons and war means, without laying down any condition. The U.S. must do so in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Geneva Agreements. To solve the South Viet Nam question, the U.S. must first of all recognize and respect the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, as specified by the 1954 Geneva Agreements. The Thieu-Ky-Huung puppet clique does not represent anybody. The U.S. must sincerely respect our people's self-determination. The South Vietnamese people are within their right to settle among themselves their internal affairs, without foreign interference."

"For the survival of the nation, for the sake of national independence and sovereignty, let's overthrow the traitorous Thieu-Ky-Huung administration and build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral Viet Nam and progress toward the peaceful reunification of the country."

(Statement by the Viet Nam Alliance of National Democratic and Peace Forces)

FAITHFUL to its political program, the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, solemnly declares: "The U.S. must unconditionally withdraw its troops and those of its satellites from Viet Nam and recognize the fundamental rights of the Vietnamese people — independence, national sovereignty and reunification of the country. It must engage in serious talks with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on the basis of the 10-point overall solution put forth by the South Viet Nam NLF, resolutely discard Nguyen-Van Thieu's neo-colonial peace initiative, remove the Thieu-Ky-Huung war cabinet, create conditions for the formation of a provisional coalition government in order to organize free general elections and progress toward the building of an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral, prosperous and powerful South Viet Nam."

We warmly appeal the July 20, 1969 statement of the Provisional

Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam.

"We approve and support the most righteous struggle of all the strata of the townspeople to recover independence, end the war, discard the Thieu-Ky-Huung war cabinet and set a peace cabinet."

"On the occasion of July 20 this year, the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces express close solidarity with the South Viet Nam NLF and earnestly calls on all our fellow countrymen, intellectuals, students, bourgeois, industrialists and traders, religious communities, political parties, mass organizations and patriotic minded officers, soldiers, civil servants still serving the puppet regime, to promptly coordinate, for the survival of the nation, for the independence and sovereignty of the country, their actions to overthrow the Thieu-Ky-Huung puppet regime, build an independent, democratic, peaceful, neutral Viet Nam and achieve the ultimate peaceful reunification of the country..."

In mid July, the PLAF continued to strike at the enemy in 3 provinces north, northwest and southeast of Saigon, west of Hue, south of the DMZ and in Pleiku and Balat (Western High Plateaux).

On July 10 and 11, they stormed many enemy positions within and around My Tho town, 30 km southwest of Saigon; the "Open Arms" centre, puppet artillery Battalion 71, the airfield, Binh Duc base, 6 km west of the town, PLAF shells hit HQ of 1st Division, the airfield and port installations; 200 GIs killed or wounded, 3 choppers destroyed, 1 war vessel sunk.

500 adverse troops were put out of action at the "Open Arms" centre, the Battalion 71 and a number of posts in 4 other sub-sections. In the two months against Tan Hiep sub-sector, 50 km north of the town, and the military training centre a full of 200 enemy troops was exacted.

In Tay Ninh province 57 km northwest of Saigon, on July 10 and 11, regional troops attacked the enemy in 13 localities (including two sub-sectors) and a company of the 1st Cav. at Loc Ninh, 13 km northeast of the town, inflicting 200 enemy casualties; 3 choppers were blasted out of the skies, 2 war vessels sent to the bottom, a 105 mm cannon destroyed. In the July 11 engagements on the Eastern Vam to river, 15 km south of the town, 10 war vessels were sunk or burnt, 20 enemy troops killed.

On July 10, the PLAF also intercepted 2 companies of the First Cav. on Highway N°13, 30 km north of Saigon, disabling 80 GIs. On July 12 on the same road, they engaged an American column,

killing 30 GIs and wrecking 6 tanks.

In an ambush against an enemy convoy on Highway N°13 on July 12, at 11 am, the PLAF destroyed 62 vehicles (10 tanks) out of 73 vehicles, downed 10 aircraft, and put out of action 200 American soldiers.

Previously, on July 4, they wiped out 16 military vehicles in a mine attack 2 km north of Hon Quan town.

Military Operations

Summing up, from July 10 to 13, in these 3 provinces, the PLAF put out of action 1,200 enemy troops, blasted 22 military vehicles, brought down 13 choppers, sank or set afloat 8 ships, war vessels.

According to additional details given by Giai Phong Press Agency regarding the raid on "Paluma" camp of U.S. Navy in Saigon 5th District, the self-defence forces in the city disabled 157 Yankees (including many officers) and heavily damaged the facade of the 5-storey building.

On the night of July 18, regional troops in Tra Vinh province, took southwest of Saigon, stole into the town and killed 100 men at the "Open Arms" centre and the police station and Ban Tan troops.

On July 6, 1969, regional troops in Ca Mau province, 20 km southwest of Saigon, sank three vessels.

In A Bia region, 45 km southwest of Hue, on July 10 and 17, the PLAF intercepted an American company of Battalion 1, Brigade 1, and a rescue party, 2 km

southwest of A Bia; 130 GIs killed or wounded, 6 tanks wrecked, 4 choppers downed.

On July 12 and 14, they struck at the columns of Battalion 1 of Regiment 3, and Battalion 1 of Regiment 1, U.S. Airborne Division 101, inflicting 150 casualties on the enemy and knocking out of the skies 7 choppers. From July 2 to 17, in the A Bia area, the enemy, continually harassed by the PLAF, lost 700 men (mostly GIs)

put out of action, 31 aircraft downed, 6 tanks destroyed.

North of Quang Tri (south of the 17th Parallel) the enemy was repeatedly taken to task at Con Tien, Can Viet, Dong Ha in the first fortnight of July, taking 900 casualties (300 GIs) and having 23 military vehicles blasted, 9 helicopters downed and 3 vessels sunk.

In the Western High Plateaux, on July 10 the PLAF ambushed an enemy convoy on Road 19, about 40 km east of Pleiku, destroying 30 vehicles. Previously on July 13 in a counter-raid at 30 km north of Pleiku, regional troops had put out of action 40 enemy soldiers and grounded a chopper.

On July 10, they humiliated at a post defended by a company of Ban Ja troops, 28 km southwest of Da Lat, wiping out the whole unit of 80 men, then 63 others of a rescue party and 3 military vehicles.

The same day, many enemy posts at Gia Nghia town, 170 km northeast of Saigon, were stormed; a Bao An platoon and 50 puppet troops and 3 military vehicles put out of action.

SAIGON STUDENTS OPPOSE MILITARY TRAINING

THIEU-Ky-Huangs' orders to put students through military training during the summer holidays met with a growing and stiff opposition from university population.

On July 14, in a sit-in at the Faculty of Pharmacy in which 'MPs' also took part, 1,500 students from various sections of the Saigon University denounced the violation of university autonomy, slighting of students' dignity and militarization of the University by the puppet administration. An "Inter-Faculty Committee for the Defence of Students' Rights" was set up and a petition for cancellation of military training for students during the summer vacation voted.

On the night of July 11, 200 students took part in a protest sit-in at the Faculty of Pharmacy.

The next morning the demonstration went on with an attendance of 2,000. The demonstrators stripped their military uniforms and staged a 'hunger strike'.

In face of the fast growing protest movement, the puppet administration took repressive measures (withdrawal of the deferment certificate from resisters) to coax the movement (10 per cent increase of examination marks for submissive candidates). However the protest went on from July 10 to 18.

Armed police was sent in to surround the Faculties of Pharmacy, Letters and Sci-

ences. Journalists were denied contacts with the demonstrators and the translation of students' statements into foreign languages was forbidden. Students of the Faculty of Letters were kidnapped by the police.

The reaction of the students was prompt and vigorous: On July 17, they broke into the streets in downtown Saigon while those of the Faculty of Letters went on a hunger strike. At a press conference held by the 'MPs' who had taken part in the sit-in, one of them condemned the puppet administration for "drowning the voice of the students and infringing university autonomy".

In spite of official orders, the Saigon press did not hush up the event and many newspapers reported it on the students' protest movement with banner headlines and photos.

On July 19, a students' delegation was received by the "Deputy Speaker" of the puppet "Lower House" and given the promise that representations would soon be made to the ruling clique in favour of the students.

On July 20, students of the Buddhist Institute in Saigon and of Da Lat University declared full support to their comrades at Saigon University. The following day, the "Inter-Faculty Committee for the Defence of Students' Rights" announced that another wave of protest would start on July 23, 1969.

South Vietnamese Intellectuals in the Common Struggle

(Excerpts from the speech by Professor Nguyen Van Hieu, delegate of the South Viet Nam Radical Socialist Party, at the South Viet Nam Congress of People's Representatives)

As one thinks back along the years, one may say that there have been in the world very few regimes so much hated by the intellectuals as the U.S.-puppet regime in South Viet Nam. Under the dictatorial yoke of Ngo Dinh Diem and his brother Nhu, intellectuals, like people of other walks of life, were tortured,

jailed, murdered. Worse still they were scorned and insulted. However, for the sake of democracy, Diem and Nhu put on the cloak of intellectuals and invented deceitful doctrines to serve as ideological basis for their terror and repression. For their part, the present Thieu-Ky-Huang clique have cast off the fig-leaf hiding their

cruelty and treachery. The traitor Nguyen Van Thieu harried abuse at the intellectuals, using the language he had acquired while serving in the French colonialists' "auxiliary troops". Could any honest intellectual, including those in the puppet administrative machine, contain his anger when Nguyen Van Thieu referred

to the intellectuals as "those rascals" and the hoodlum Nguyen Cao Ky shook his fist at intellectual personalities demanding justice, independence and neutrality?

These traitors large or deliberate deny that the intellectual personalities standing for peace, independence and neutrality, maintain close ties with the age-old traditions of Vietnamese intellectuals. In their veins flows the blood of Nguyen Trãi and Thu Kien Huan and during the 40-year anti-French resistance and after, they have had such representatives as Thai Van Lung,

Le Quang Vinh, and others, whose damnable was worthy of our forefathers. They forget that among these people whom they called "rascals" and threatened to liquidate, many have in spite of prison and arrest remained loyal to the cause of national liberation, while others have refused to collaborate with the enemy for long years, and that a large number of intellectual and civil servants, though compelled to serve in the puppet administration, have kept their allegiance to the native land. No, the true

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